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C O N F I D E N T I A L ANKARA 000418

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: DECL: 01/25/2015

TAGS: [PGOV](#) [PREL](#) [TU](#) [IZ](#)

SUBJECT: IRAQ: TURKS PLAN TO ISSUE POSITIVE PRE-ELECTION  
STATEMENT, BUT WILL NOT PRE-JUDGE THE RESULTS

REF: A. STATE 12757

[1](#)B. 04 ANKARA 6769

[1](#)C. ANKARA 352

Classified By: Counselor for Political-Military Affairs Timothy A. Bett  
s for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

[1](#)1. (C) PolMilOff called on MFA Head of Department Avni Botsali Jan. 26 to discuss ref a demarche. Botsali responded that he expects the GOT to release a positive statement about the Iraqi elections prior to Jan. 30. He said it would be similar to previous statements the Turks have released which have supported the election and the full participation of all Iraqis (see ref b).

[1](#)2. (C) Botsali said that he will wait to see how events play out on Jan. 30 before drafting a post-election statement. He reiterated familiar Turkish concerns about elections in Kirkuk (ref c). Nationwide, the potential for violence and a very low Sunni turnout will be chief on the GOT's mind as Election Day approaches.

[1](#)3. (U) Baghdad minimize considered.  
EDELMAN